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which similar experience is recorded in Europe." The article referred to is entitled *Larvæ in the Human Bowels*. It is by the late Mr. Walsh, and gives a good summary of what is known of the subject in this country. See also *Guide to the Study of Insects*, pp. 366, 367. — ED. NATURALIST.]

SWEDISH PODURANS. — The *Poduridæ*, or "spring-tails" of Sweden, have been monographed in an elaborate way by T. Tullberg. The memoir is accompanied by twelve plates, and enters quite fully into the anatomy of these little creatures of so much interest to microscopists. The work appears in the *Transactions of the Royal Swedish Academy* for 1871, and has just reached this country.

ANTHROPOLOGY.

AN INTERESTING "FIND" OF INDIAN RELICS. — A very interesting "find" of Indian relics has been obtained by the writer, from a locality not previously examined, although within a short distance of the site of his collecting labors of the past three years. By the uprooting of a large tree during the tornado of Tuesday night, February 1st, and a consequent landslide on the south bank of Crosswick's Creek, near Yardville, Mercer County, New Jersey, the traces of the site of a former "homestead" were brought to light, consisting of corn-mills, pestles, axes, hammers, spears, and arrow-points, associated with innumerable fragments of bones, mussel-shells, and charcoal. No fragments of the bones were sufficiently large to determine the animals to which they belonged, beyond the fact that while some undoubtedly were fragments of mammal bones, the vast majority were those of birds and large fishes. The main feature of interest connected with the stone implements is the uniform character of the workmanship displayed in their manufacture. There was not found one polished celt, or a single specimen of jasper arrowhead. The find consists of the following specimens: Sixteen arrow-points varying from four inches to one and one half in length; they are all of the same mineral, a slaty rock, and now very much weather-worn, soft, and pliable. One spear-head, six inches in length, made of the same mineral and equally weather-worn. Five specimens varying between the spear and knife forms, one of white quartz, and all of the same character of workmanship. One specimen of an elongate, lozenge-shaped implement, seven inches in length by two in greatest width, and pointed at each end; the edges have been chipped; very much weather-worn. These twenty-three specimens, found as they were together, bear us out in our remarks in the February number of the NATURALIST, that specimens found deep in the soil, as a class, are less elaborately wrought than those found nearer the surface. They were lying, when exposed to view, about two feet below the surface, and the character of the soil is such that its accumulation is wholly due, I believe, to the gradual decomposition of vegetable matter, commingled with fine sand, such as gentle winds will

carry as "dust." If, as was suggested in the February number of this journal, one inch of soil will accumulate in one hundred and twenty-eight years, these specimens are fully thirty centuries old, and certainly their general appearance is suggestive of as considerable an antiquity.

The large specimens that were taken from the mingled dust and ashes of this ancient dwelling-place comprise two corn-mills, as they are usually called. They are both large, quadrangular, sandstone boulders, one with the depression only on one side, the other with a shallow cup on each side. With them was one globular pebble three and one half inches in diameter, that evidently had been used as the crusher, in reducing the corn or nuts to a powder. The grooved stone axes were thirteen in number, varying somewhat in pattern, but particularly noticeable in that but two were of that form in which the groove does not extend entirely around the head of the ax, but leaves a smooth surface on the upper edge.¹ This pattern may be of later date than those with the groove extending entirely around the specimen. I have found, on comparing many hundreds of these relics, that as a rule those with the groove not encircling the implement are more accurately finished, and with a greater extent of polished surface. Pebbles of a very regular outline were chosen, and the variation among them was in size only. On the other hand, pebbles not at all symmetrical were frequently chosen for axes, grooved and ground to an edge at one end; but such non-symmetrical specimens, I believe, always have the groove extending entirely about them. The thirteen specimens here mentioned vary from eight to four inches in length. The workmanship displayed in their production quite accords with the rude arrow and spear points with which they were associated. Not one can be called a first-class ax, although some certainly are better finished than others. There occurred two specimens of chipped clay-slate implements, that approach the ax in form, and which were evidently designed as cutting implements. One is quadrangular, six inches in length by four in width, and about one inch in thickness. The chipping is easily traced over the entire surface. There is no trace of a polished edge or groove. A slight depression on the upper and lower margins indicate that a handle was once attached to the specimen, as ordinary grooved axes were hafted. The accompanying specimen is still ruder in finish, but has a better-wrought edge. It is obtusely triangular in outline, and a little shorter and narrower than the preceding. The pestles are eight in number and vary from one foot to four inches in length. None are polished and worked into an accurately cylindrical shape, and the larger ones all have the heads so battered as to show that they were used as we use modern pestles in mortars, and not as "rollers," or war-clubs, as some have suggested. The other specimens, eight in number, consist of two net-sinkers, two hammer-stones, a scraper, and three cobble-stones, two of which have been somewhat

¹ The American Naturalist, vi. 145, Figure 10.

chipped, as though intended one for an ax, the other for a chisel or gouge. The other is a curiously shaped stone, that has been utilized as a hammer or nut-cracker. The shape may be designed and not accidental. It is quite certain that the aborigines made use of stones of convenient shapes, for many of the simpler household purposes; but it does not follow because no trace of chipping or polishing is to be detected upon these stones, that the stone has been accidentally so shaped, for the long-continued use of a broken stone would tend to wear it down and so obliterate the trace of the fracture. A survey of the fifty-four specimens constituting this "find," together with the circumstances under which they were discovered, afford, I think, valuable additional evidence of the facts, as I believe them to be, with reference to the stone implements found in North America generally, which are that those found most deeply embedded are the older, and that there is abundant reason for considering that during the occupancy of the Atlantic coast of North America, the Indians advanced from a lower to a higher stage of stone-age culture. — CHARLES C. ABBOTT, M. D.

ANTHROPOLOGICAL NEWS. — Colonel Charles Whittlesey contributes to the *Scientific Monthly* of Toledo, for November, 1875, articles on the Rock Inscriptions in Amherst, Lorain County, Ohio, and on The Comparison of the Indians and Mound Builders.

A story has been going the rounds of the papers to the effect that pygmy graves exist in Tennessee and Kentucky. It is not new, Haywood in his *Natural and Aboriginal History of Tennessee* having attempted to substantiate the notion. The following evidence that no pygmy race left their remains in this part of our country must be conclusive. Mr. S. E. Haskin, writing from Pine Falls, Tennessee, after having opened twenty small slab-graves in White County, says that the graves vary in length from fifteen inches to two feet, and in width from seven to fourteen inches. He sends with his letter a package of bones and teeth. Some of the latter are milk teeth, and in one fragment of a jaw-bone the second teeth are pushing out behind the milk teeth. Mr. W. M. Clark, employed during the last year by the Smithsonian Institution, to investigate the same subject, and who sent the relics mentioned by Bessels in his paper in the *Bulletin of Hayden's Geological Survey*, (Vol. II., No. 1), has written for the Smithsonian Report for 1875 a long account of his labors, in which he distinctly proves that the little slab-graves are either those of children or are ossuaries. But the most exhaustive refutation of the whole matter is contained in Chapter II. of a paper, accepted for publication in a forthcoming volume of the Smithsonian Contributions to Knowledge, by Dr. Joseph Jones, of New Orleans. The entire subject is reviewed, from Haywood's work down, and the most convincing proof brought forward from the examination of hundreds of graves, that the small cists are either children's graves or ossuaries. In the former case the fragile jaw exhibits two sets of teeth; in the latter

case parts of more than one skeleton are found. Furthermore, in the same mound with the so-called pygmy graves are found long graves in which the skeletons of unusually tall men and women lie at full length.

The International Congress of Americanists will hold its next session at Luxemburg, from the 10th to the 13th of September, 1877. They have already issued their circular of invitation.

Mr. Charles M. Wallace contributes to the *American Journal of Science* for March an article in which he claims to have found in the beds of brick, clay, and stratified gravels, near Richmond, Va., various hatchet-like, disk-like, and spear-shaped palæolithic implements, from four to eight feet below the surface. "One of them is somewhat like an implement from the Reculver Pits" (Evans, p. 534, N. Y., 1872). The name of Professor Baird is used in the article as *encouraging* the author (he encourages every diligent seeker for truth); but I am sure Mr. Wallace does not mean to say that Professor Baird *endorsed* his conclusions as to the nature of his finds. Two things are necessary to be done in the case. The most scrupulous care is to be exercised in determining exactly all the conditions of the find, and the implements must be compared with similar ones from other localities by skilled archæologists before any safe conclusion can be reached.

The Paris Anthropological Society has issued separately the cranio-logical and craniometrical instructions, prepared by a committee of that body.

Both the January and the February numbers of *Matériaux pour l'Histoire primitive et naturelle de l'Homme* are full of interesting matter. All lovers of archæology should encourage this periodical, whose editors, at great personal sacrifice, conduct it solely in the interest of science.

The Rev. William Houghton read a paper before the Society of Biblical Archæology, March 7th, on the Mammalia of the Assyrian Monuments; Part I, Domestic Mammals. There are three forms of representation: (1) by pictorial or sculptural representations; (2) by description; (3) by picture and description combined. The domestic animals known were the ox, sheep, goat, camel, ass, horse, mule, and dog. The author promised a subsequent paper on the Wild Animals.

George Smith writes to the *Athenæum* of February 12th, "I have discovered a Babylonian text giving a remarkable account of the temple of Belus at Babylon. It is the first time any detailed description of a temple has been found in the cuneiform texts."

Mr. E. B. Tylor read before the London Institution, March 23, 1876, a paper on the Races of Mankind and Their Civilization. The following works on anthropology have appeared: Hellwald, *Culturgeschichte*; reviewed by Tylor in *Academy*, February 26th. Wilson, *Prehistoric Man*, 2 vols., Macmillan. Gill, *Myths and Songs of the South Pacific*, King & Co., London. Koner, *Bibliography of Anthropology*. Garland, *Atlas der Ethnographie*, Leipzig, Brockhaus.